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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

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1. (currently amended) A system for assisting a user in navigating through a performance of a task, the task including a plurality of sub-tasks, the system comprising:

a graphical user interface comprisings sub-task performance component to:

<u>a list control the serial presentation</u> of two or more of the sub-tasks <u>associated</u> with the task, the list including for each <u>sub-task</u>:

an identifier, and

a datum corresponding to a parameter, and

on a graphical user interface, each of the two or more sub-tasks displayed in a respective two or more panels, each panel associated with a respective sub-task in the list of the graphical user interface; and

a task performance component configured to:

control a presentation of the two or more panels in the graphical user interface,
for each of the two or more sub-tasks in the list, enable the a user, for each of the
two or more sub-tasks, to perform the sub-task by entering information into the
respective panel associated of with the sub-task as the sub-task is presented,

detect information entered by the user in a panel associated with a sub-task, a sub-task list component to:

control the display of a sub-task list of items to the user on the graphical user interface while the two or more sub-tasks are being presented, each item representing a respective one of the plurality of sub-tasks and including a sub-task identifier identifying the respective one of the sub-tasks, including displaying, within at least one of the items, a datum corresponding to a parameter of the sub-task represented by the at least one item;

wherein the sub-task list component is operable, for each of the at least one item, to determine control the change in a of the datum corresponding to the a parameter of the sub-task displayed within the item based on information entered by the user in the panel of at least one of the two or more sub-tasks; and

wherein the sub-tack performance component is operable to determine one or more of the items to include in the sub-tack list based on the information entered by the

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user in the respective panels of at least one of the two or more associated with the sub-

dynamically determine a new sub-task that is required to be performed by the user to complete the task, the new sub-task being determined based on the change in the datum corresponding to the parameter of the sub-task, and

automatically update the list to include the new sub-tasks.

- 2. (currently amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the sub-task-list emponent is operable, for each of the two or more sub-tasks in the lister least one items, to control the a display in the item of the information entered by the user in the respective panel of the sub-task-represented by the item.
- 3. (canceled)
- 4. (currently amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the sub-task-list-of component is operable to enable the user to perform the two or more of the sub-tasks in a temporal order in which the user selects the two-or more items representing the two or more sub-tasks, respectively, from the sub-task-list.
- 5. (currently amended) The system of claim 4, wherein the sub-task-list component-is operable to enable the user to perform the two or more sub-tasks in a temporal order that is independent of a positional order in which the two or more sub-tasks items representing the two or more sub-tasks, respectively, are listed.
- 6. (currently amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the sub-task performance component is operable to determine one or more of the sub-tasks required to perform the task based on the information entered by the user in the respective panels of at least one of the two or more sub-tasks.
- 7. (canceled)
- 8. (currently amended) The system of claim 1, the sub-task performance component is operable, in the event that information already has been entered by the user for a first sub-task, to

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determine that an item representing the first sub-task is no longer to be included in the oub task list and to control notifying the user that confirming an acceptance of the information entered in the first panel will result in the information entered for the second sub-task being discarded.

- 9. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein the system is operable to perform the task of creating one or more rules of an access control sub-task list for a network device.
- 10. (currently amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the sub-task-list component is operable operative to vertically orient the sub-task list on the graphical user interface.
- 11. (currently amended) A computer-implemented method of assisting a user in navigating through a performance of a task, the task including a plurality of sub-tasks, the method comprising acts of:
- (A) serially presenting two or more of the sub-tasks on a graphical user interface, each of the two or more sub-tasks displayed in a respective panel of the graphical user interface;
- (B) for each of the two or more sub-tasks, enabling the user to perform the sub-task by entering information into the respective panel <u>associated withof</u> the sub-task as the sub-task is presented;
- (C) while the two or more sub-tasks are being presented, displaying a sub-task-list of the two or more sub-tasks items to the user on the graphical user interface, the list including for each sub-task an identifier and a datum corresponding to a parameter each item representing a respective one of the plurality of oub-tasks and including a sub-task identifier identifying the respective one of the sub-tasks;
- wherein act (C) includes, for at least one of the items, displaying a datum corresponding-to-a parameter of the sub-task-represented by the at least one item;
- (D) for each of the at least one item, changing athe datum corresponding to athe parameter of athe sub-task-displayed within the item based on information entered by the user in the a panel associated with the sub-task of at least one of the two-or more-sub-tasks; and
- (E) dynamically determining a new sub-task that is required to be performed by the user to complete the task, the new sub-task being determined based on the change in the datum

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corresponding to the parameter of the sub-taskone or more of the items to include in the sub-task list based on

information entered by the user in the respective panels of at least one of the two or more sub-tasks; and

(F) automatically updating the list to include the new sub-task.

- 12. (currently amended) The method of claim 11, wherein act (C) includes, for each of the at least one items two or more sub-tasks, displaying in the item the information entered by the user in the panel associated withof the sub-task-represented by the item.
- 13. (canceled)
- 14. (currently amended) The method of claim 11, further comprising:
- (GF) enabling the user to perform the two or more of the sub-tasks in a temporal order in which the user selects the two or more items representing the two or more sub-tasks, respectively, from the sub-task list.
- 15. (currently amended) The method of claim 14, wherein act (GF) includes enabling the user to perform the two or more sub-tasks in a temporal order that is independent of a positional order in which the two or more sub-tasks items representing the two or more sub-tasks, respectively, are listed.
- 16. (currently amended) The method of claim 11, further comprising:
- (GF) determining one or more of the sub-tasks required to perform the task based on information entered by the user in the respective panels of at least one of the two or more sub-tasks.
- 17. (canceled)

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18. (currently amended) The method of claim 11, wherein information already has been entered by the user for a first sub-task and act (E) includes determining that an item-representing the first sub-task is no longer to be included in the sub-task-list, the method further comprising an act of:

(GF) notifying the user that confirming an acceptance of the information entered in the first panel will result in the information entered for the second sub-task being discarded.

19. (original) The method of claim 11, wherein performing the task includes creating one or more rules of an access control sub-task list for a network device.

20. (currently amended) The method of claim 11, wherein act (C) includes vertically-orienting the sub-task list on the graphical user interface.

21. (currently amended) A system for assisting a user in navigating through a performance of a task, the task including a plurality of sub-tasks, the system comprising:

a sub-task performance component to control the serial-presentation of two or more of the sub-tasks on a graphical user interface, each of the two or more sub-tasks displayed in a respective panel-of the graphical user interface, and to enable the user, for each of the two or more sub-tasks, to perform the sub-task by entering information into the respective panel of the sub-task as the sub-task is presented;

a sub-task-list_component to control-the display of the two or more sub-tasks sub-tasks list of items to the user presented on thee graphical user interface while the two or more sub-tasks are being presented, the list including for each sub-task an identifier and a datum corresponding to a parameter each item representing a respective one of the plurality of sub-tasks and including a sub-task identifier identifying the respective one of the sub-tasks;

means for displaying, within at least one of the two or more sub-tasks in the listne of the items, a datum corresponding to a parameter of the sub-task-represented by the at least one item;

means for changing, for each at least one of the two or more sub-tasks in the lister least one item, the datum corresponding to the parameter of the sub-task displayed within the item based on information entered by the user in the a panel associated with the sub-task of at least one of the two or more sub-tasks; and

means for operating the sub-task performance component to dynamically determine a new sub-task that is required to be performed by the user to complete the task, the new sub-task

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being determined one or more of the items to include in the sub-task list based on the change in the datum corresponding to the parameter of the sub-task; and

means for automatically updating the list to include the new sub-task-information entered by the user in the respective panels of at least one of the two or more sub-tasks.

- 22. (currently amended) A computer-readable medium having computer-readable signals stored thereon that define instructions that, as a result of being executed by a computer, control the computer to perform a method of assisting a user in navigating through performance of a task, the task including a plurality of sub-tasks, the method comprising acts of:
- (A) serially presenting two or more of the sub-tasks on a graphical user interface, each of the two or more sub-tasks displayed in a respective panel of the graphical user interface;
- (B) for each of the two or more sub-tasks, enabling the user to perform the sub-task by entering information into the respective panel associated withof the sub-task as the sub-task is presented;
- (C) while the two or more sub-tasks are being presented, displaying a-sub-task list of the two or more sub-tasks items to the user on the graphical user interface, the list including for each sub-task an identifier and a datum corresponding to a parameter-each item representing a respective one of the plurality of sub-tasks and including a sub-task identifier identifying the respective one of the sub-tasks;

wherein act (C) includes displaying, within at least one of the items, a datum corresponding to a parameter of the sub-task represented by the at least one item;

- (D) for each of the at least one item; changing the a datum corresponding to the a parameter of the a sub-task displayed within the item-based on information entered by the user in the a panel associated with the sub-task of at least one of the two or more sub-tasks; and
- (E) dynamically determining a new sub-task that is required to be performed by the user to complete the task, the new sub-task being determined one or more of the items to include in the sub-task-list-based on the change in the datum corresponding to the parameter of the sub-task; and
- (F) automatically updating the list to include the new sub-task information entered by the user in the respective panels of at least one of the two or more sub-tasks.

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- 23. (currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 22, wherein act (C) includes, for each of the at least one items two or more sub-tasks, displaying in the item information entered by the user in the panel associated without the sub-task-represented by the item.
- 24. (canceled)
- 25. (currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 22, wherein the method further comprises:
- (GF) enabling the user to perform the two or more of the sub-tasks in a temporal order in which the user selects the two or more items representing the two or more sub-tasks, respectively, from the sub-task-list.
- 26. (currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 25, wherein act (GF) includes enabling the user to perform the two or more sub-tasks in a temporal order that is independent of a positional order in which the two or more sub-tasks items representing the two or more sub-tasks, respectively, are listed.
- 27. (currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 22, wherein the method further comprises:
- (GF) determining one or more of the sub-tasks required to perform the task based on information entered by the user in the respective panels of at least one of the two or more subtasks.
- 28. (canceled)
- 29. (currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 22, wherein information already has been entered by the user for a first sub-task and act (E) includes determining that an item representing the first sub-task is no longer to be included in the sub-task-list, the method further comprising an act of:
- (GF) notifying the user that confirming an acceptance of the information entered in the first panel will result in the information entered for the second sub-task being discarded.

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- 30. (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 22, wherein performing the task includes creating one or more rules of an access control sub-task list for a network device.
- 31. (currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 22, wherein act (C) includes vertically-orienting the sub-task-list on the graphical user interface.